

**SPECIAL ISSUE**  
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# Seattle Socialists on Trial

The Attorneys



The Editor



The Organizers

Freeway Hall case sounds the alarm for the privacy rights of social-issue organizations

Legal witchhunt against the FSP, its leaders and defense attorneys poses grave threat to everyone's constitutional rights

The Veterans



## Fact sheet

# FSP's legal self-defense

## against the

**November 1978**—The Freedom Socialist Party and Radical Women are ordered to vacate Freeway Hall, their headquarters and a popular center of political and cultural activity for more than a decade. They launch an intensive search for a new building and establish the *Freeway Hall Eviction Fund*.

**December 1978 - April 1979**—FSP negotiates brief extensions of the eviction deadline with the new landlord, restaurateur Ivar Haglund.

**January - June 1979**—FSP rejects as too extravagant Richard Snedigar's offer to sell his house and donate all proceeds to the eviction fund. After his housemates agree to higher rent, Snedigar refinances the house for \$52,500 and donates \$22,500 to the eviction fund,

and that no written or oral agreement to return the money was ever made or implied.

**March 1985**—Judge Terrance Carroll rejects the FSP's request for dismissal of the entire suit, but throws out Snedigar's charges of abuse of trust and violation of charitable solicitation laws.

**May 1985**—Judge Arthur Piehler orders the FSP to turn over "all information previously requested and requested in the future" by Snedigar, including membership and contributor lists, internal minutes, and other confidential records.

**June 1985**—The grueling search for a new hall ends

### It started with an eviction . . .

retaining \$30,000 to pay first mortgage, back taxes, and debts.

**January 1980**—FSP and RW gear up for the administrative hearing in *Clara Fraser's sex and political ideology discrimination case against Seattle City Light*. Freeway Hall is the center of case support work.

**February 1980**—Haglund issues a second eviction notice. But the FSP wins a temporary extension after adverse publicity forces Haglund to relent.

**August 1980**—A city hearing panel overturns the hearing examiner's favorable decision in Fraser's case. Fraser appeals to Superior Court.

**September 1980**—Snedigar resigns from the FSP, without explanation, claiming that he has "no disagreements" with the party and expressing good will.

**February 1982**—Haglund tries to double the rent, but the FSP holds down the increase by documenting Haglund's failure to repair the building.

**August 1982**—Fraser wins in court and is awarded back pay and reinstatement.

**February 1983**—Fraser is awarded attorneys' fees.

**July 1983**—Almost three years after he severed contact with the FSP, Snedigar writes the party, accusing it of inventing the eviction fund as a "ruse" to bilk supporters. He demands the dismantling of the fund and return of all contributions.

**January 1984**—Snedigar files suit in King County Superior Court demanding return of his gift plus interest and lawyers' fees. He charges the FSP with fraud, undue influence, breach of contract, unjust enrichment, abuse of trust, and violation of the charitable solicitation laws.

**June 1984**—The FSP defeats Snedigar's attempt to impound the eviction fund pending outcome of his suit.

**January 1985**—In oral deposition, Snedigar admits that the eviction crisis was real and ongoing, that he was free to contribute or not to the eviction

with purchase of a building in Seattle's Columbia City district.

**August - October 1985**—Snedigar demands FSP meeting minutes referring to hall search and the emergency.

**September 1985**—The FSP, with support from the National Lawyers Guild (NLG) and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), wins reversal of Judge Piehler's order from the Washington State Court of Appeals.

**October 1985**—Judge Robert Dixon orders the FSP to turn over the minutes either to Snedigar or to a judge for in camera review.

**November 1985 - December 1986**—The FSP asks the state Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals to review Judge Dixon's order. An unprecedented 56 organizations co-sign an NLG amicus brief describing the devastating effect any disclosure of minutes would have on First Amendment rights.

Thousands of people sign petitions and write letters to the courts. But neither court will review the case.

**April 1987**—Snedigar files a default motion demanding that he win without even going to trial because of the FSP's refusal to relinquish the minutes.

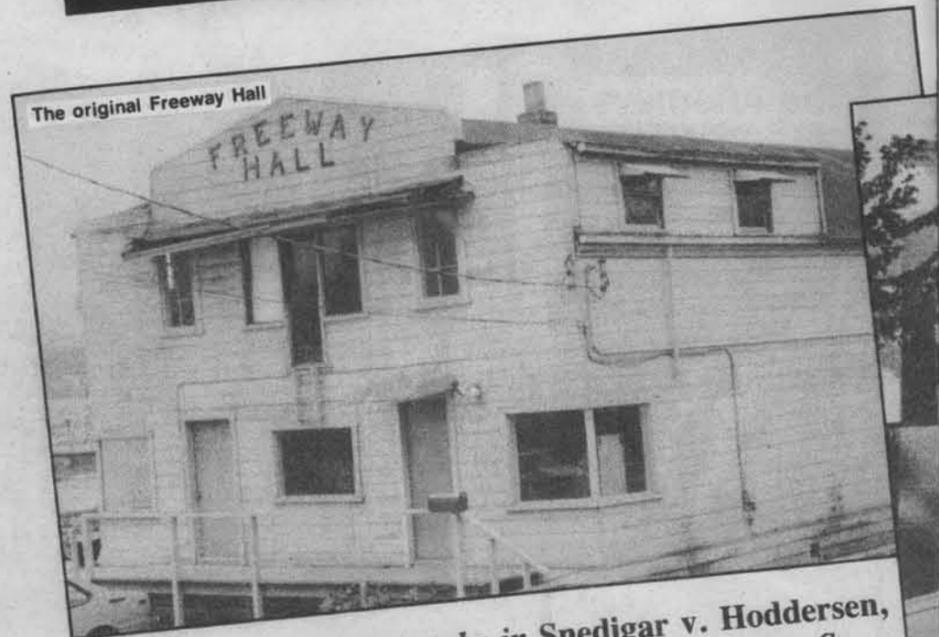
Superior Court Judge Warren Chan gives the defendants 20 days to comply or be held in default.

**May 1987**—FSP attorneys discover that Snedigar's personal copy of a Freeway Hall Case deposition has been given to a rightwing employer, who is suing FSP attorney and defendant Fred Hyde. (See "The Latest Round," p. 3.)

**May 1987**—Judge Chan signs the default order, but refuses to file it until the appeals court decides whether it will accept discretionary review of the constitutional issues in the case.

**May 1987**—The FSP petitions the Court of Appeals to review the case. Snedigar moves to dismiss the FSP's request for review.

**June 1987**—Appeals court Commissioner JoAnne Tompkins denies Snedigar's motion to dismiss and sends the FSP's request for review to a three-judge panel to consider on August 28. She refuses to allow oral arguments.



The original Freeway Hall

**The Freeway Hall Saga: At stake in Snedigar v. Hoddersen, et al. is a new headquarters purchased by the Freedom Socialist Party by means of an Eviction Fund to which Snedigar contributed. Now he wants his money back, plus interest, plus lawyers' fees, or else a lien on the newly restored and remodeled building. Failing that, he wants homes,**

## Case issues

### ● Violation of organizational privacy

Snedigar assumed that, as a major contributor to the FSP's eviction fund, he had the right to dictate which building the party should buy and when. The FSP, whose internal democracy is not for sale, rejected Snedigar's assumptions. Now, Snedigar and his lawyers seek to have the courts force return of the contribution, which would effectively overturn the party's right to set its own policies and priorities.

Additionally, Snedigar's demand that the FSP disclose its internal documents is a grievous threat to the party's political privacy. When hostile or even supposedly neutral political forces gain access to a radical organization's private discussions and membership records, individual members become targets for harassment and candidates for the unemployment lines. The group's ability to organize is compromised and its survival jeopardized.

And it doesn't stop there. Were the courts to strip by fiat the FSP's privacy rights, this chilling precedent would swiftly threaten labor, civil rights, environmental, church, and all community organizations. Who indeed is safe if the judicial arm of government can arbitrarily junk the Constitution?

### ● Sentence before verdict

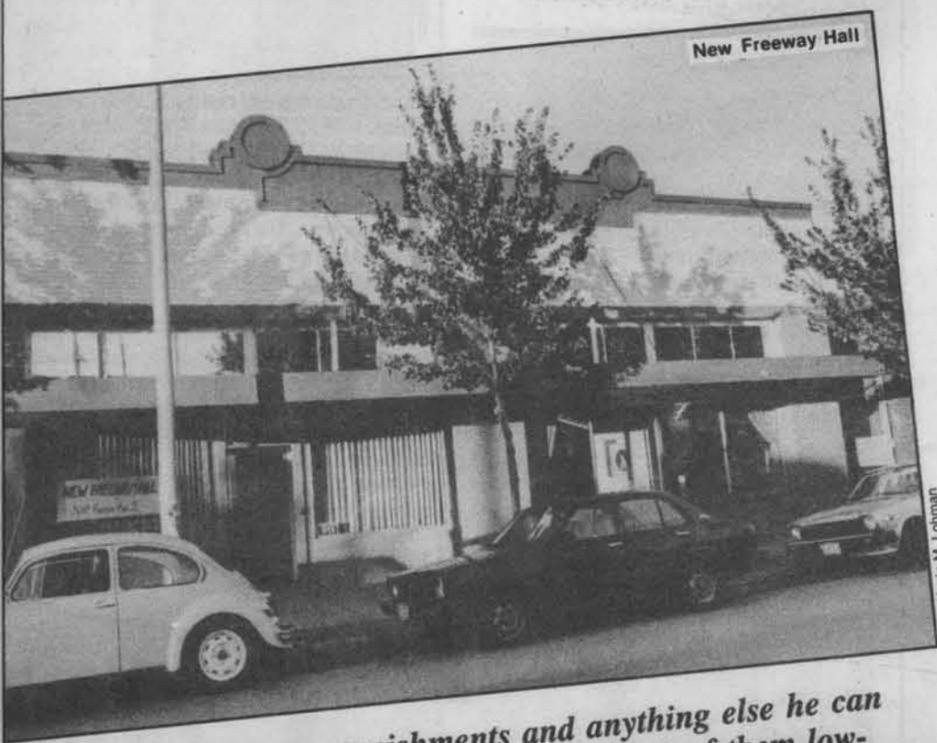
The FSP refuses to comply with the order to disclose minutes, which may result in a default decision. Snedigar could then, without having to prove a thing in court, try to seize the party's headquarters and defendants' wages, bank accounts, and personal property. Such a penalty imposed before the issues in this case have been decided would strike at the heart of due process.

### ● Treasury raid

Normally, freely given gifts are irrevocable. But Snedigar wants back the gift of \$22,500 made to the FSP's eviction fund—ostensibly because the party didn't immediately buy a new hall, but plainly because Snedigar no longer agrees with the FSP's politics.

His suit threatens any voluntary organization whose existence depends on contributions from members and supporters. No group can operate for long if its treasury can be raided with impunity by disaffected former contributors.

# new McCarthyism



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*cars, savings, wage garnishments and anything else he can commandeer from the nine defendants, most of them low-income or retired workers. He demands all this before a trial on the merits of his complaints, because the FSP refuses to surrender its membership lists, internal minutes and financial records for his, or a judge's scrutiny.*

## at a glance

### ● Prejudicial stereotyping of radicals

Had Snedigar sued the Democratic Party he would have been laughed out of court. But the FSP has spent three years in litigation. Why? Because Snedigar and his lawyers play on anti-communist biases and stereotypes.

Wampold/Pailthorp characterize the party both as "a small declining cult" and as a Marxist Monolith whose "tight discipline" is rigorously imposed on a zombie-like membership. Snedigar confesses that he was once a dupe of the Bolsheviks, but has seen the light (now that the price is right). Though their script is an old one, cribbed from the finks of the McCarthyite '50s, it's still the tested means of pressuring the courts in political cases.

### ● Malice, vengeance, and greed

Feeding Snedigar's vendetta is the venom traditionally displayed against former comrades by radicals-turned-witchhunters. Added to Snedigar's hostility is the antipathy of the Seattle city bureaucracy, which backs Snedigar morally and, most likely, financially.

The FSP's high-profile pro-labor and affirmative action stance, its defense of Seattle's Fair Employment Practices and Open Housing ordinances, and Clara Fraser's victory over City Light have earned the party the bureaucrats' undying hatred.

Then there's the enmity, and greed, of Wampold and Pailthorp, who are willing to do the bureaucracy's dirty work and take their reward. Shades of Roy Cohn and other hustlers who hounded communists during the Great Red Scare!

### ● Harassment of the defendants

It's no accident that Snedigar named nine individual defendants, including top FSP leaders, in his suit. With Snedigar, the political is also a personal grudge match.

His patently absurd and untrue charges of fraud and undue influence are slanderous attempts to smear the defendants' reputations in the community, while Wampold and Pailthorp aim to cripple the defendants financially by grabbing their property. Obviously, Snedigar intends to humiliate, harass, and break human beings, as well as destroy the party whose politics they embody.

It's been a legal rollercoaster ride for the Freeway Hall Case defendants this spring and summer. In April, King County Superior Court Judge Warren Chan found the FSP in default for refusing to turn over its minutes. Then in May, he signed but

Letters, petitions, pickets—and the 58 people who crowded the courtroom on May 14—played a large part in convincing Chan to delay filing the default and to recognize

## The latest round . . .

did not officially file the default order.

Judge Chan said he wished to provide the party an opportunity to request appellate court review of the case's crucial constitutional issues before default actually took place.

Breakthrough! Until Chan, no judge had even admitted these constitutional issues *should* be reviewed. However, Chan refused to consider them himself or consider any option less drastic than default.

**Shortchange.** The FSP immediately petitioned the Washington State Court of Appeals to review the issues that lie behind the default order—and Snedigar's lawyers immediately demanded dismissal of the party's request.

On June 19, appeals court Commissioner JoAnne Tompkins rejected Snedigar's dismissal motion and sent the FSP's request for review directly to a three-judge panel to consider on August 28. Normally, the court commissioner hears such petitions with oral arguments, and either side can ask the panel to modify an adverse ruling.

Tompkins, however, shortchanged the process and ruled that the panel will decide whether or not to review the case without hearing oral arguments. Tompkins's rationale is that "the court system has been repeatedly injected into a seemingly endless series of motions..." In other words, one strike and you're out.

This charge of burdening the court strongly implies that the FSP's defense of its First Amendment rights is somehow improper.

FSP counsel Val Carlson says in response: "*The courts could have settled this matter...by agreeing to hear the legitimate constitutional claims, or by sending the case to trial with the protected documents excluded. We have every right and an obligation to defend ourselves with every means available in court against a ruling that would deny everyone's First Amendment freedoms.*"

*"You don't hear judges decrying the number of appeals by convicted mass murderer Ted Bundy!"*

**What price privacy rights?** The FSP had spent 14 months trying to get the appeals court or the Washington State Supreme Court to review the issues. Like the higher courts, Judge Chan refused to consider those issues, and ignored all arguments that default was an undeserved, brutal penalty. On April 10, he gave the party 20 days to hand over the minutes or face default.

With backs to the wall, the defendants put their community organizing efforts into high gear. They quickly collected more than 4000 petition signatures urging Chan to reconsider. Over 100 supporters sent protest letters. On April 24, the Freeway Hall Case Defense Committee held two protest pickets outside the King County Courthouse.

the case's significance. When Snedigar's attorney, Thomas Wampold, denounced concern for First Amendment issues as a "red herring," Chan asked, "*How do you weigh a claim for \$22,000 against a claim of invasion of constitutional rights?*"

**Sinister partnership.** Earlier in the hearing, Carlson dropped a bombshell by presenting evidence that Snedigar is colluding with a rightwing employer who, in another harassment lawsuit, is suing FSP attorney Fred Hyde. Snedigar's personal copy of a Freeway Hall Case document was given to the employer, Thomas Layne. As an administrative law judge for Washington State, Hyde had ruled that Layne had discriminated against a transgendered employee. Layne charges that Hyde, because he is a socialist and human rights activist, is "biased" against employers and should be removed from his job.

Carlson herself was subpoenaed to provide Freeway Hall Case Legal Fund records in the suit against Hyde. She refused. Layne is also probing for the membership and minutes of the Ad Hoc Committee for Fair Employment and Open Housing, to which Hyde belongs. The committee is waging a tremendous battle against Mayor Royer's efforts to dismantle Seattle's job and housing anti-discrimination ordinances.

Layne's attorney works with the law firm of attorney Gordon Clinton, a former Seattle mayor and ex-FBI agent. Freeway Hall Case defendants, who've always suspected that the string-pullers behind Snedigar's suit are past and present city bureaucrats out to bulldoze their FSP nemesis, take great interest in Snedigar's service to Layne and company.

What better illustration of the real, witchhunting nature of Snedigar's suit?

**On to court!** The August 28 court date is coming up fast, but the defendants are not passively waiting to see if it will bring default or the chance, *at last*, to have the issues heard.

Again, they have revved up with a high-octane public pressure campaign: gathering petition signatures, new endorsers, and support letters, for starters.

Individual and organizational endorsers now number well over *four hundred*. Three of the latest include: U.S. Representative John Conyers, Jr., D-Mich., a member of the Black Congressional Caucus; Father William Davis of the Christic Institute (a public interest law firm that won the Karen Silkwood case); and the National Women's Studies Association.

All the case's thousands of supporters know that Snedigar's attack on radicals' constitutional rights is just a foot in the door against everyone's rights.

So, it's on to court for another round of this epic Bill of Rights battle. The FSP defendants and their growing army of supporters are fighting on the side of the angels. And they're not about to stop!

# Scoundrel time

Richard Snedigar's sinister lawsuit charges the FSP with "unduly influencing" him to give money to its Eviction Fund, also breaching a supposed "contract" with him, also committing "fraud" when a new headquarters wasn't purchased soon enough for his unspecified timeline.

But in a deposition taken in January 1985, before the new hall was acquired, Snedigar told a far different story.

## Undue influence?

Q. Did you make that [financial] offer voluntarily?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you feel coerced to make that offer?

A. Not in any way . . .

Q. Didn't you, yourself, believe that an emergency existed at that time?

A. Yes, I certainly did . . .

Q. Was your belief that the emergency existed based on your knowledge of the situation?

A. Yes.

## Fraud?

Q. Did you feel that the attaining of [occupancy] extensions from the landlord alleviated the emergency in any way?

A. No.

Q. Is there any point in time since 1980 that you think the emergency ceased to exist?

A. No.

Q. You think the emergency continues to exist?

A. Yes.

## Breach of contract?

Q. Did you enter into an agreement with any person . . . that the money would be given back to you if it was not spent for a hall?

A. Not that I recall.

Thomas Wampold



Richard Snedigar

## The devil theory

Thomas Wampold and Michelle Pailthorp invoke anti-radical stereotypes to power their drive against the FSP. They go to new lengths in stereotyping and disparaging radicals. Wampold complains of the "impenetrable oceans of paranoia which seem to fuel defendants' actions" and accuses the FSP of operating on a "devil theory of the universe."

## Pact with the devil

Lawyer Pailthorp, furious at the FSP's demand for due process to protect its constitutional rights, blurts out in court, "This is the first time I ever had any sympathy for J. Edgar Hoover."

**S**nedigar's lawyers play on all the anti-Marxist biases and stereotypes in order to keep his bogus case alive in court. Chief among the stereotypes is their depiction of the FSP defendants as a gang of soulless automatons—a maliciously McCarthyite caricature of revolutionaries.

Well, it just ain't so. There's not a Bolshevik Machine in the Freeway Hall bunch. Bolsheviks, definitely. But Bolsheviks who are people—concerned, committed human beings, on trial and in jeopardy because of their dedication to their beliefs.

We'd like to lay the myth of the Bolshevik Machines to rest, and for good. Allow us to introduce the Freeway Hall Case activists.

**Clara Fraser**, National Chair of the FSP, is a feminist pioneer who has kept Trotskyism vital by integrating the best of the Old Left and the New Left.

She was born in 1923 to radical Russian Jewish immigrants and was raised in the labor-socialist movement. She joined the Young Peoples Socialist League in her teens.

After graduating from UCLA in English Lit, Drama, and Education, she



joined the Socialist Workers Party, worked in advertising, and organized department store workers in Chicago. She moved to Seattle in 1946; Blacklisted for her leading role in the 1948 Boeing strike (she was an electrician), she still managed to find work and organize against McCarthyism in the '50s.

After 20 years in the SWP, Clara became co-founder of the FSP and Radical Women. A tireless campaigner for Black and women's equality since the '30s, she hailed the upsurge of the '60s and '70s, and became an acknowledged national and local leader in the antiwar, human rights, and Left milieus.

Clara became Education and Training Coordinator at Seattle City Light in 1973. She was a leader in the tumultuous City Light employee walkout the following year, and dissident employees subsequently elected her to co-chair a worker-management negotiating team formed to hammer out an employee Bill of Rights and Responsibilities. Management refused to implement the bill, and in 1975, fired Clara for her role as employee leader and advocate of affirmative action.

Clara filed a groundbreaking sex and political ideology discrimination suit against the utility, and in 1982, after seven mind-wracking years, she triumphed. She won reinstatement to her old job, \$135,000 in back pay and damages, and \$50,000 in attorneys' fees.

She retired from City Light in March 1986, saying she wished to "recuperate from years of forced association with City of Seattle managers and lawyers."

Clara enjoys dining out with comrades and friends. She is also an enthusiastic fan and critic of the movies and the theater.

**Gloria Martin** was born in St. Louis in 1916 and raised in Asheville, North Carolina.

She joined the Young Communist League in her early twenties, but left after the infamous Stalin-Hitler Pact, disgusted by the Communist Party's debasement of political principle and by the entrenched sexism of party leaders.

Stifled by Southern bigotry, Gloria moved to Seattle in 1950—lured by the rainy and cool climate—and plunged into civil rights and civil liberties organizing. In the '60s, she was one of the early staffers of the anti-poverty program. Later in the decade, she helped launch the nation's first successful abortion rights campaign. Thanks to that effort, Washington State won legal abortion



three years before the U.S. Supreme Court's 1973 Roe vs. Wade ruling.

In 1966, Gloria led a class at Seattle's Free University on Women and Society, which brought together Old Left Trotskyists and New Left feminists. This class showed the need for a mass anti-capitalist women's organization to build women's revolutionary leadership.

She helped form Radical Women to meet this need. Today RW, the radical mainstay of the feminist movement, is the oldest socialist feminist group in the U.S.

Gloria became FSP Organizer in 1973 and remained in the post for five years, guiding the party's initial growth as a national organization.

Her book, **Socialist Feminism: The First Decade**, details the FSP's record



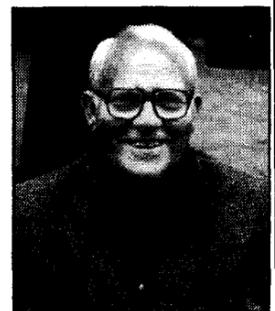
from 1966-76, analyzes the political tumult of those years and the party's role in it, and draws the lessons of the upsurge.

Gloria manages the bookstore Shakespeare & Co. She is currently gathering material for an archives on women's history.

Gloria likes gardening, travel, and music—from Bach to the Beatles to Besie Smith. She loves movies, true crime stories, chocolate, actor Peter O'Toole, the arts and crafts movement, and was fascinated by the Irangate hearings.

**Eldon Durham**, a retired Presbyterian minister, was born almost three quarters of a century ago on a Kansas ranch. He taught school, worked on an assembly line, dug ditches, and stood in the long unemployment lines of the Great Depression, all before he was 35 years old.

He earned a graduate degree in theology while working in New York ghettos.



At the onset of WWII, he gave up his theological deferment and risked prison

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as a conscientious objector.

Following the war, Eldon was one of the courageous few who spoke out against McCarthyism. He inveighed against anti-labor "right-to-work" laws and fought for racial justice. He also opposed atomic testing and in the '60s marched against the war in Vietnam. "My hope," he says, "is that I can stay around long enough to see this system fall flat on its face."

Eldon's daughter, Guerry Hoddersen, is also a defendant in this case. The two are probably the first and perhaps the only father-daughter team to square off against the new McCarthyites.

**Guerry Hoddersen** credits the Black civil rights movement with propelling her into political activism. She organized against segregation as a student in North Carolina, then entered the University of California at Berkeley in 1964, just in time to participate in the Free Speech Movement and in antiwar protests. In 1965, she worked for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) in rural Mississippi, organizing challenges to continued segregation in public accommodations and to job discrimination by white businesses.

Guerry became Radical Women Organizer in 1973. Under her leadership, RW made the crucial transition from being an organization made up primarily of students to one composed mainly of working women.

Southwest and Midwest, and eventually in the Chicano farmworker community of the Yakima Valley in Washington State.

As a student and staff employee at the University of Washington in Seattle, Yolanda was active in the Chicano movement on campus. She placed feminism on the agenda of the movement, co-founding the Chicana/Latina organization MUJER.

She also helped organize an independent staff union—United Workers Union-Independent, representing low-paid women and minority workers—and served as the union's president. She graduated in 1977 in editorial journalism.

Yolanda joined the FSP in 1976 and quickly became a leader because of her theoretical acumen and outstanding will-



ingness to represent and defend the party's program in the movements for social and economic change. A firm believer in the political integration of these movements, she has won national respect in political showdowns with separatists and anti-rad-

ical FS, and his work has appeared in such national radical publications as the *Guardian*.

Doug worked as a Metro bus driver in Seattle for eight years and belonged to Amalgamated Transit Union Local 587. His last big fight as a union activist before leaving Metro was against the company's introduction of a two-tier wage system.

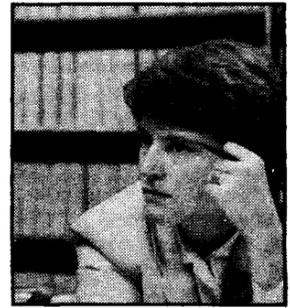
Doug became FSP Seattle Organizer in 1983, inheriting the search for a new party headquarters and presiding over the branch's mobilization against Snedigar and Co. Once the party was moved to New Freeway Hall, he supervised the massive renovations which transformed the dilapidated ex-bingo parlor into the sparkling and comfortable community center it is today.

**Sam Deaderick** was one of the earliest enlistees in the gay rights movement.

He joined the Gay Liberation Front in Portland, Oregon in 1970, organizing demonstrations, media speakouts, and educationals at high schools and colleges. He also gained recognition as a movement writer and editor.

In 1973, Sam became a mainstay at

to attend meetings of the Feminist Coordinating Council, a Seattle group formed



to clarify and unify feminist activities. She fought to broaden the organization's focus beyond white middle-class women's issues, and argued for prioritizing the concerns of women of color, lesbians, and poor working women.

After graduating from law school in 1975, Val worked for eight years as Affirmative Action Officer for the Bellevue, Washington, school district. There she battled for equal opportunity in hiring and for a multi-cultural curriculum.

Val entered private practice in 1983, fresh from success as co-counsel for Clara

# Meet the Defendants

## Group defiance of an unconstitutional court order

In 1978, the same year Guerry became FSP's Seattle Organizer, FSP and RW received notice to vacate Freeway Hall. Guerry directed the launching of a massive, protracted hall hunting while public outcry kept the landlord at bay.

Then in 1980, Clara Fraser's suit



against City Light provided the branch with new challenges, which Guerry met with drive and élan. Her stewardship was indispensable to Clara's victory.

In 1983, Guerry took over as FSP National Secretary, charged with completing the task of welding the party into a cohesive national and international force. This she is accomplishing, in the teeth of Snedigar's suit and Reaganite assault on U.S. radicals.

Guerry maintains a keen interest in popular culture. A razor-sharp analyst of the trends, she delights in lampooning the fashion czars, Hollywood, and the "post-feminist" media's attempts to shoehorn women back into pre-'60s subjugation.

**Yolanda Alaniz** was born in Texas. The daughter of migrant workers, she grew up in the fields and towns of the

icals at race, sex and lesbian/gay liberation conferences all over the country. Yolanda is currently a member of the FSP Secretariat and is National Coordinator of the party's Comrades of Color Caucus.

Weaving together her experiences as a farmworker, human liberationist, and Marxist student of history, she co-authored a gripping history and pioneering analysis of the Chicano liberation movement, **The Chicano Struggle: A Racial or a National Movement?**

Yolanda currently works for Seattle's Water Department. To unwind, Yolanda goes to the movies—she's seen *La Bamba* four times—or dancing. On her agenda for the near future is a visit to Mexico.

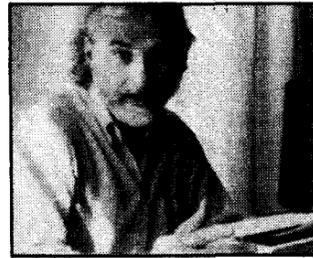
**Doug Barnes**, a native Oregonian born in 1953, gravitated to political radicalism in the early '70s when he joined the antiwar and ecology movements. In 1971, Doug moved to Washington State to attend The Evergreen State College, where he also worked as an arts technician. He organized on campus for



student and staff rights and for lesbian/gay liberation.

After joining the FSP in 1975, Doug quickly became a mainstay of the *Freedom Socialist*. His organizing abilities helped the paper survive and grow in the early '80s. Doug brought a natural talent for graphic arts and photography to the

Seattle Counseling Service for Sexual Minorities. The following year he helped found the Union of Sexual Minorities, an



anti-capitalist lesbian/gay group that was instrumental in shaping Seattle's gay movement into a political force to be reckoned with. Sam also organized support for Seattle's landmark Fair Employment Practices and Open Housing ordinances and spoke out against police brutality in the lesbian/gay and people of color communities.

Sam co-authored the remarkable series "Gay Resistance: The Hidden History," which ran in the *Freedom Socialist* from Fall 1978 to Spring 1980. As an FS editor, he also covered international developments extensively.

Currently, Sam works as a word processor in Seattle. Off-hours, he enjoys playing chess.

**Val Carlson** hails from Colorado. Her political roots are in the civil rights and student mobilizations of the '60s and early '70s. While attending Whitworth College in Washington State, she co-chaired Whitworth's Human Rights Council, which fought for Black enrollment and multi-ethnic education.

Val chose to emulate the radical attorneys who fought to end U.S. aggression in Vietnam. She joined the National Lawyers Guild shortly after entering law school at the University of Washington in 1972.

As a law student she also found time

Fraser's suit against Seattle City Light. Currently, she directs the legal fight against Snedigar.

The case is a high-pressure constitutional battle and there is work enough for a battery of lawyers. But Val manages it cheerfully, skillfully, and unflappably, as befits a winner.

**Fred Hyde** was born in Oregon in 1949 and raised on a cattle ranch.

He graduated from the University of Washington law school in 1975. While on campus, he joined the struggle to form United Workers Union-Independent. He represented UW staff in front of the Higher Education Personnel Board and eventually helped win them a pay hike.



Fred teamed with Val in representing Clara against City Light, which placed them high on the city bureaucracy's hate list. This likely accounts for the current lawsuit against Fred by rightwinger Thomas Layne. (See "The Latest Round" on p. 3.)

An administrative law judge for the state, Fred is a member of Washington Federation of State Employees Local 435 and a delegate to the King County Labor Council. He won key labor support for Clara's case, and in 1984 sparked state labor council opposition to rightwing ballot initiatives against abortion and Indian initiating rights.

Away from the office, Fred likes to strum his guitar and sing labor songs. He has performed at labor rallies and countless other public events.

“It's a sure sign that the legal system...is totally screwed up when world-class crooks and war-mongers like Colonel Oliver North...are out walking the streets while you're threatening to throw the book at...the Freedom Socialist Party.”

**Flo Kennedy**  
Feminist attorney  
New York

“Recognizing that ‘An injury to one is an injury to all’...the labor movement has come out strongly in support of FSP's defense of their (and our) constitutional rights.”

**Michael T. Waske**  
Business Manager  
International Federation of  
Professional and Technical  
Engineers Local 17  
Seattle

# What the

# Dear Judge Chan . . .

A selection from the stacks of letters protesting Judge Warren Chan's April '87 default order against FSP

“I am extremely apprehensive about the future implications of your ruling for it will seriously affect other minority persons and groups...that may be singled out for harassment for their political beliefs and philosophical convictions.”

**Mitsuye Yamada**  
Feminist poet and teacher  
Irvine, CA

“The 25,000 members of our organization cherish our constitutional rights to freedom of association, free speech and privacy, and so we support the strong stand taken by the FSP...in *Snedigar v. Hoddersen, et al.*”

**Vito J. Pitta**  
President  
New York Hotel Trades Council

“Review of minutes by a judge is a form of government intrusion into people's private political discussions and inhibits free expression.”

**Thomas F. Hickey**  
Co-chairperson  
The Gay and Lesbian  
Union at New York  
University

“Punishing the FSP for asserting the right to privacy is unjust and would endanger the rights of every union, political, civil rights, civil liberties, and social action organization in Washington State and the nation.”

**Leonard Sklar**  
President  
New York University Central  
America Solidarity Committee

“Democracy and a free society no longer exist when we live in fear of reprisals for what we think and say.”

**Frank Wilkinson**  
Executive Director Emeritus  
National Committee Against  
Repressive Legislation  
Los Angeles

*Roger Yockey is a noted labor journalist and Chair of the Freeway Hall Case Defense Committee.*

I have never had any doubt about the importance of the Freeway Hall Case. Nor have I hesitated in giving my full support for the defendants.

A score or so years ago, I was a journalism student writing for the *Marquette Tribune* at Marquette University. One of my pieces blasted a film that glorified the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC). My opinions brought down the wrath of McCarthyites on my head. Shadowy figures came around questioning my friends about my activities. A very nervous dean of the journalism school brought me into his office to ask if I was aware of “people with machine guns (!) out there” who might wish to do me harm.

It wasn't a pleasant experience. And it made me highly aware of the need to battle rightwing fanatics who seek to eliminate freedom.

Later, as a reporter, I learned that the jobs and physical safety of my

## by Defendant

*This statement by Freeway Hall Case defendant Alaniz is extracted from an editorial first published in the Seattle Times, on May 14, 1987.*

Experience teaches that for any one of us to make changes in the world, we need the help of others. And to get that help, we need the right to organize.

Experience also teaches that while some people would deny us this right, many more will fight beside us to protect it.

I come from a family of migrant farm workers in the Yakima Valley. With help, I beat the odds against racism and sexism, and attended the University of Washington. There I discovered that for many students and staff, the right to organize was essential to our very existence. Ultimately, I helped found a campus union for low-paid workers, mostly women and minorities.

Now I am battling for the right of privacy. For the civil rights movement, for unions, for any group

# Case means to me

by Defense Committee Chair

Roger Yockey



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abridge freedom of speech by demanding public disclosure of the names of FSP members and supporters, financial records, and internal meeting minutes. No one can exercise free speech or assemble peaceably if what they say in their assemblies can be made known to their political enemies—who might try to harm them physically, financially, or otherwise.

And in these reactionary times, socialists especially are jeopardized by forced disclosure.

It's not just their own rights, however, but everybody's that the defendants are standing up for. This case will set a precedent either way it goes. And if the FSP's First Amendment rights can be done away with by the courts, how can we say anyone's rights are safe?

That's why the case has received so many individual and organizational endorsements, friend of the court briefs, signed petitions, phone

calls and letters urging judges to rule in the defendants' favor. Increasing numbers of unions, civil rights groups, and community organizations know what's at stake in this case and will support the defendants through hell and high water.

The attacks on democratic rights by the Reagan administration, the

right wing, and the bosses have been strong and relentless, and aimed directly at working people. But because the attacks strike at such a wide range of targets, they have served to revitalize the principle that an injury to one is an injury to all.

The Freeway Hall Case illustrates clearly that if the defendants lose we all lose. But they are not going to lose—because they refuse to give up the struggle.

That's why I support the Freeway Hall Case. What about you?

confidential news sources often depended on my refusal to name names to anyone. My credibility as a reporter depended on it as well.

The Freeway Hall Case is all about resurgent McCarthyism and a refusal to name names.

The First Amendment says, "Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech . . . or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for redress of grievances."

Yet Richard Snedigar and his attorneys are attempting precisely to

*rights a double-edged sword to wield against civil rights organizations as well as radical political parties. If we refuse to disclose confidential information, our opponents will rob us of our hard-earned resources. But if we disclose [this information], the enemies of civil rights will use [it] to thwart our work."*

The social inequality the NAACP fought in the '50s is still with us, as is organizing for change—and, inevitably, attempts to smash such organizing. Hundreds of groups and individuals have been dragged into court in efforts to shut them down or shut them up. The sanctuary movement, Palestinian radicals in Los Angeles, Puerto Rican nationalists in New York, and undocumented and other immigrant workers are among the targets.

But the dreams of all who work to build this country will not be denied. I didn't come from the hot sun and dust of the Yakima Valley to be told that my constitutional rights are not as good as someone else's, whether because of my race, sex, or political ideas. I will not surrender the constitutional rights that enable us to fight for our dreams.

*¡Venceremos!*

## Yolanda Alaniz

steering against prevailing political winds—and even those that aren't—privacy is crucial to the right to organize without fear of harassment.

The failure of Washington courts thus far to protect free association provides what a Black feminist and attorney, Flo Kennedy, has called "legal cover for political witch-hunting."

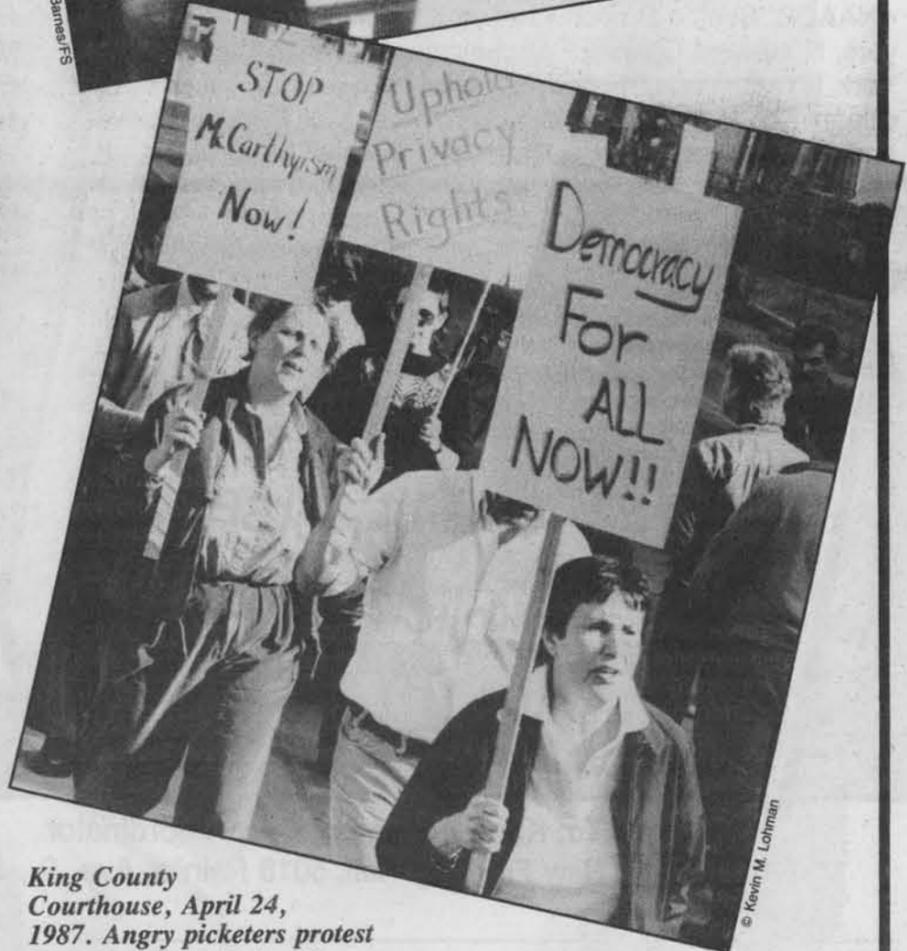
Puyallup Indian activist Ramona Bennett, in an affidavit to the court, explained why she too has refused to hand over organizational records: "It has been my experience that state or federal officers are most likely to abuse their authority against people from different political, ethnic, or religious backgrounds."

In another affidavit, Oscar Eason, Jr., chair of the National Board of Directors of Blacks in Government, reviewed the NAACP's successful battle against disclosure of its membership list to the State of Alabama in the 1950s. Eason noted that a default ruling against the FSP would be "punishment for defending associational privacy rights" and would "give opponents of civil



Doug Barnes/FS

*Case Coordinator Karrie Peterson (r.) has every reason to smile, as she and the Freeway Hall Case petitioning team garnered over 500 signatures at Seattle's Black Community Festival early in August. Signers urged the Washington State Appeals Court to accept review of the constitutional issues in the case on August 28.*



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*King County Courthouse, April 24, 1987. Angry picketers protest Superior Court Judge Warren Chan's default ruling against the FSP.*

## Partial list of endorsers of the FSP's fight for the First Amendment

**INTERNATIONAL** Alliance for Socialist Action, Vancouver Branch, Canada • 11th National Conference of Lesbians and Homosexual Men, Australia • Fight/Tijuana AIDS Organization/Gay Information Center, Tijuana, Mexico • International Lesbian and Gay People of Color Conference, Los Angeles • Irish Republican Socialist Committee of North America • League for Social Justice, Derry, N. Ireland • *Pensamiento Critico* journal, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico

**LABOR** King County Labor Council, AFL-CIO, Seattle • New York Hotel and Motel Trades Council, New York, NY • Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO • AFSCME Locals 2083, 2083-C, 3211, 3218 • AFT Local 3882, New York, NY • Cannery Workers Local 37, I.L.W.U., Seattle • CWA Locals 7800, 7901 • Independent Federation of Flight Attendants, Bothell, WA • International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers Local 17, Seattle • Portland Labor Committee on Central America and the Caribbean, Portland, OR • Service Employees International Union Local 6, Seattle • Ship Scalers Union Local 541, Seattle • United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1105, Seattle • Washington Federation of State Employees Locals 341, 435, 843, 1488

**ANTIWAR** Seattle Nonviolent Action Group • Guatemala Solidarity Committee, Seattle • Nicaragua Task Force, Venice, CA

**LEFT** African Peoples Socialist Party • Bolshevik Tendency • Committee for a Revolutionary Socialist Party • Fourth Internationalist Tendency • International Socialist Organization, Seattle Branch • Line of March, Seattle Chapter • New Alliance Party • Partisan Defense Committee • Peace and Freedom Party of California • Socialist Action • Socialist Labor Party • Socialist Party USA • Socialist Workers Party • Solidarity • Spartacist League • Workers World Party

**PEOPLE OF COLOR** Asian Cultural Union, New York, NY • Committee in Defense of Immigrant Rights, Seattle • El Centro de la Raza, Seattle • Leonard Peltier Support Group • NAACP, Seattle Branch • National Conference of Black Lawyers, Northwest Chapter • Organization of Asian Women, New York, NY • Ramona Bennett, Puyallup Tribe activist, Tacoma, WA • John Conyers, Jr., member, U.S. House of Representatives and Congressional Black Caucus\* • George W. Crockett, Jr.,

member, U.S. House of Representatives and Congressional Black Caucus\* • New York 8/Grand Jury 8/Defense Committee Against Fascism • Seattle Coalition Against Apartheid • Janet McCloud, Northwest Indian Women's Circle,\* Yelm, WA

**FEMINIST** Clinica Eva Defense Committee, Los Angeles • Federation of Feminist Women's Health Centers • National Women's Studies Association • Northwest Women's Law Center • NOW, Seattle and Everett Chapters, WA • Radical Women • A Woman's Place Bookstore, Portland, OR • Women Rising in Resistance, Champaign, IL • Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Seattle • Gloria Steinem, co-founder and Editor, *Ms.* magazine, New York, NY

**LESBIAN/GAY** The Dorian Group, Seattle • Freedom Day Committee, Seattle • Gay and Lesbian Peace Concerns, Los Angeles • Gay and Lesbian Union at NYU, New York, NY • *Just Out* newspaper, Portland, OR • Mayor's Task Force on Lesbians and Gays, Seattle • National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays • *Seattle Gay News*

Join us  
in defense of  
privacy rights!

### SOCIAL ISSUE

Ad Hoc Committee for Fair Employment and Open Housing, Seattle • Anti-Police Abuse Coalition, Brooklyn • Palestine Human Rights Campaign, Seattle • Father William J. Davis, Christic Institute,\* Washington, D.C. • Robin Stephens, disabled rights advocate, Portland, OR

### LEGAL/CIVIL LIBERTIES

American Civil Liberties Union of Washington • Center for Constitutional Rights • National Emergency Civil Liberties Committee • National Lawyers Guild • Haywood Burns, President, National Lawyers Guild, New York, NY • Flo Kennedy, host, "The Flo Kennedy Show," New York, NY

**ARTISTS, AUTHORS, PERFORMERS** Gloria E. Anzaldua, Editor, *This Bridge Called My Back*, San Francisco • Toni Cade Bambara, National Association of Third World Writers,\* Philadelphia • Karen Brodine, poet, National Writers Union,\* San Francisco • John Gilbert, actor, Seattle • Regina Hackett, art critic, *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*\* • Cherríe Moraga, Editor, *This Bridge Called My Back*, Santa Rosa, CA • Esther Mumford, author, Seattle • Selma Waldman, artist, Seattle • Nellie Wong, poet, San Francisco • Merle Woo, poet, Berkeley

\*For identification only

**Yes,  
I can help!**

I can collect endorsements, publicize the case, and share my skills.

**Sure,  
I'll donate!**

Accept my contribution for legal and information costs.

To: Karrie Peterson, Case Coordinator  
New Freeway Hall, 5018 Rainier Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98118 • 206-722-2453

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

- Add my name to the mailing list and keep me posted.  
 Contact me to help with defense committee work!  
 Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help the FSP defend First Amendment rights.  
(Make checks payable to the Freeway Hall Defense Committee.)